

“Swinging for Students” set for June 6th

The charity golf schedule kicks off Thursday, June 6th with “Swinging for Students,” the 8th annual Chamber of Commerce golf tournament that supports Bay College scholarships and the promotion of Chamber membership.

The event takes place at the Terrace Bluff with a 1PM shotgun start. The entry fee is still \$75, and it includes green fees, lunch, dinner, beverages and refreshments on the course and a lot of fabulous prizes. Again this year, “Lunch on the Run,” a pre-prepared bag lunch, will be given to every golfer so there is no delay in getting onto the links and the day of business networking, socializing and sporting fun.

A registration form can be obtained from www.deltami.org, and also by calling the Delta County Chamber of Commerce at 786-2192.

Chamber members also have the opportunity to support this charitable event and to gain valuable visibility for their business through hole sponsorships, “Have One On Us,” contributions and donation of top flight and door prizes. All will be acknowledged in the program.

If your business is interested in being a sponsor, contact the Chamber at 786-2192 or e-mail us at info@deltami.org.

Jennifer Stone and Tom Broeders are the two recipients of scholarships funded by last year’s “Swinging for Students” Chamber golf outing. The scholarships were presented at the Chambers annual dinner in October.

Ask Jennifer Stone if receiving a scholarship assisted her toward her foal of becoming an LPN. “It helped tremendously,” she replied without hesitation. “I am going to school full time and am a single mother so I am limited as to how much I can work. Any financial assistance means a lot!” In addition to her studies, Stone works in the café at Bay College as part of the work-study program.

Stone will be graduating this spring from Bay College, and she finishes her classes in August. She will then be able to begin work in the field she has always wanted to pursue. “My aunt went back to school, and she encouraged me to do the same,” she commented. Her family is in the area and she wants to stay here, as she knows she can find work in the field of nursing. Her long-range plan is to become an RN, but that will have to be on a part



time basis.

The other scholarship recipient, Tom Broeders, is in his second year of Bay College’s water purification program. Water purification involves a number of chemistry classes and courses in industrial maintenance for water plants. It is a two-year program that requires an internship at a water or wastewater plant in the last semester.

Broeders works at McDonald’s to help with the cost of attending Bay. “The scholarship meant a lot. That plus my job helped a lot in paying for tuition and books,” he said. He enjoys snowmobiling and 4-wheeling and likes being outdoors. “I really want to stay around here,” he said, “but I may have to leave for a while till something opens in the UP.” Given the excellent placement record of Bay’s water program, there is little doubt that he will find employment in his selected field.

Chamber members are reminded that proceeds from “Swinging for Students” funds this assistance given to Delta County students pursuing education leading to a job needed in this area.

River Cities Regional Chamber of Commerce announces upcoming events

Concerts in the Park

Great Lakes Memorial Marina Park located on First Street in Menominee

June 20, 7:00 pm *Inga Rirca*

June 27, 7:00 pm *Bright Spots*

Menominee River Century Bike Ride

The ride begins at the Marinette High School and includes several different length courses.

For a brochure, and more information on the bike ride, or any of the above stated events, please call The River Cities Regional Chamber of Commerce At (906) 863-2679

Superintendent Tom Watkins speaks to educators and business community

Recently, Michigan Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Watkins had the opportunity to speak to local educators and to the local business community during a luncheon sponsored by Michigan Works! The Job Force Board, and the Delta County Chamber of Commerce at the House of Ludington in Escanaba.

Watkins spoke on such issues as the need for better facilities, and of the need for better partnerships between business education.



Michigan Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Watkins

Research project ahead of schedule

"You are the first, as well as, so far the only recipient of a Consultation Education and Training (CET) research grant project award," were the words of Kathleen M. Wilbur, Director of the Department of Consumer & Industry Services for the State of Michigan, in a September communication to Bay College concerning a grant that they had received.

Bay College had been awarded the grant to do a research project involving Noise Induced Hearing Loss (NIHL) in the wood products industry for fiscal years 2001-2004. The total amount of funding for the three year research project is \$254,648.

Bay College was one of ten applicants who applied for the grant and the only community college. The other applications were submitted by Michigan universities and private research firms. Initiated by Bay College Industrial/Safety Trainer Butch St. Juliana, and compiled and submitted by Safety Director Jayne Bernard and Director of Customized Training Doug Russell, this research grant is the first of its kind for Bay College. "It's not typical for a Community College to be administering such a major state funded research project such as this. We are very fortunate to have been chosen to conduct this research," said Bernard.

The Michigan Occupational Safety & Health Act (MIOSHA) cited the reduction of noise induced hearing loss as one of its performance goals. This

research study seeks to assist in achieving that goal by conduction time weighted averages of more than 100 jobs in the wood products industry. The performance sites for the study are sawmills, logging sites, and secondary wood manufacturers throughout the state of Michigan. The long term objectives of this study are to create a database of information for occupations throughout the wood products industry; increase wood products industry employee and employer awareness of job related hearing loss hazards; assist employers in creating better hearing conservation programs using the data developed through this research; and decrease the number of noise induced hearing loss incidents for workers in logging, sawmill operations, and wood products manufacturing. The MIOSHA administration will closely evaluate Bay's performance under the grant and because Bay College is the first such recipient, those evaluations will be used to determine the course regarding whether continued research projects will be supported under the CET grant program.

As of March 21, 2002, Bay College's research team has measured and analyzed sound exposure for 25 out of the approximately 80 jobs in the wood industry. Additionally, multiple sound exposure measurements have been obtained for 13 of the 80 jobs. Jobs in the logging division for which sound exposure has been measured include chain-saw operator, skidder/forwarder operator, feller buncher/processor, maintenance, chipper operator

and loader operator.

This preliminary data indicates that several job-types within the wood industry are **above** the MIOSHA action level for the hearing conservation programs. Hearing Protection Devices (HPDs) would be mandatory for all operations that have been tested.

The schedule for the first year is to complete 150 assessments at logging sites, sawmills, and wood product manufacturers, and so far 82 assessments have been completed. The State is very pleased that Bay College has completed about 60% of the assessment, which puts them ahead of the proposed schedule.

Bay College President Allkins said, "The significance for doing this particular topic of research stems from our relationship with the wood products industry partners throughout the state. They have the largest annual economic impact of any one industry in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. It's our way of protecting the growth of this economic force and shows our commitment to improving health and safety conditions in the workplace, while contributing some valuable and useful research outcomes under such an important project."



Safety Training Schedule

ServSafe Training
June 3

Confined Space Training
June 19

Fall Protection Training
June 21

For more information, please contact: Jayne Bernard
Director of Safety Training
M-TECSM at Bay College

Call 906-786-5802 x. 1510
Visit www.baydenoc.cc.mi.us

NMU's 2002-03 rate schedule approved by Board of Trustees



Northern Michigan University

Northern Michigan University should maintain its rank of having the fourth-lowest tuition and fees among the state's 15 public universities with the 2002-03 rate schedule approved May 3rd, 2002 by the NMU Board of Trustees. For full-time undergraduate students from Michigan, the annualized cost of attending NMU – including tuition, fees, room and board – will be \$10,410. This is an increase of \$616 or 6.3 percent from 2001-02.

The breakdown of the annualized cost is as follows: tuition and fees will total \$4,780, which is expected to remain below the state average and amounts to a \$423 increase over the previous year; and the room-and-board rate for a double-occupancy residence hall unit will be \$5,630, up \$193.

The board also agreed to revise the fee structure. Tuition bills previously included three itemized fees to cover NMU services, technology and infrastructure. Listing them separately gave some students and parents the mistaken impression that they were optional, when in fact they were required. Now they will fall under the umbrella heading of university fee.

Northern bills now will include three charges: tuition, the university fee for full-time students and the student activity fee. The latter is approved by the student body. New full-time undergraduate students also pay an additional one-time athletic events fee of \$100, which went into effect last year after a student referendum.

NMU President Judi Bailey said NMU reallocated about \$740,000 to keep tuition and fees lower for fall 2002. The reallocation effort includes not hiring for all vacant positions, streamlining work processes and delaying some scheduled initiatives or using one-time rather than base-budget funding. She said the goal was to cut costs where feasible while maintaining academic quality.

"Before bringing our recommendations to the board, we talked extensively with our constituency groups – students, faculty, staff, alumni and community members," Bailey said. "The overriding messages we received from each group were consistent: don't cut programs and services, don't increase class size and don't do anything to hamper personal attention to students. These priorities became the parameters we used in developing this year's budget."

Historical and Arts Resources in U.P.

By Representative Doug Bovin, 108th District Representative

Recently, we created a new state department to harness all of Michigan's historical and cultural resources and place them under one roof. The Department of History, Arts and Libraries will be a true asset to our state to ensure the arts, our rich heritage as a state, and our public libraries are utilized to tell Michigan's story.

When companies look to expand or relocate, one of the top things on their checklist is the quality of life in the community. Quality of life can mean many things, but one of the things companies are looking for is an array of cultural amenities for their employees. It is important to have a network of museums, performing arts centers, and libraries to offer residents the opportunity to learn and experience the arts.

In the Upper Peninsula we are blessed with abundant historical and cultural resources. Our regional history is a diverse tapestry woven by the Native Americans who inhabited these lands over the centuries, and the explorers who eventually would chart these undiscovered lands. They were followed by an array of immigrant groups who came here to start businesses or work in the mines.

In Delta County, we have the one of the stops on the Michigan Historical Museum System – Fayette Historic Townsite on the Garden Peninsula. The site is located within the Fayette State Historic Park, and it recalls the days of iron smelting glory. We also have a wonderful local museum in the Delta County Historical Museum, which displays local history of our industries, land and lakes.

The William Bonifas Fine Arts Center offers us monthly changing exhibits of regional and national collections. It also offers us workshops and classes on the arts, and plays and musical performances. This comprehensive arts organization is a centerpiece in our community.

In Dickinson County, we are fortunate to have a historical marvel in the Cornish Pump Museum. I commend the community volunteers who are working very hard to preserve the pumphouse after a recent mine shaft cave-in. Through the hard work of these residents, it is working its way back to providing us an important glimpse of the past. The community of Norway also is looking to expand and move its fine museum.

In Houghton County, some exciting developments are in the works. By 2005, the A.E. Seaman Mineral Museum hopes to relocate its entire operation from the campus of Michigan Technological University into a new museum complex using two historic buildings on the Quincy mine property in Hancock. While making the museum more accessible to its visitors, this will also allow for rethinking and renovating the museum's exhibits and its content.

Menominee County is home to the West Shore Fishing Museum. Restorative efforts are currently under way on the 1897 properties to make an attempt to draw remembrance to the commercial fishing industry. It is unlikely that this industry will ever again be able to employ the large numbers of people as it once did, but the West Shore

Fishing museum will help to preserve commercial fishing's mighty cultural and historical heritage of our region.

We also are blessed with a wide range of libraries for all purposes. It is my hope that the new laws creating a Broadband Authority in Michigan will provide high speed Internet access to all libraries, which will provide even more opportunities for local residents to research, learn, and enjoy cultural sites around the world.

The "U.P." – the best of Michigan - has a diverse cross-section of cultural and historical resources. Many of our historical sites receive thousands of visitors a year and in this short space I have only provided a small sampling of the Upper Peninsula's wealth of fine cultural amenities. As a life long "yooper" I understand that the entire Upper Peninsula is truly a wealth of rich cultural heritage. Our contribution to the story of Michigan will only be more fully explored now that we have the Department of History, the Arts and Libraries online.



Representative Doug Bovin

UPCFA awards \$1,000 Grant to UPEDA

Consistent with the UPCFA's mission and objectives to provide financial support qualified tax-exempt organizations for projects aimed at solving community problems or enhancing life in the Upper Peninsula, a grant of \$1,000 has been made from the Sustainable Communities and Economic and Development Fund to the UPEDA.



Mr. Dave Woodworth, Executive Director of the UPCFA and Ms. Linda Hirvonen President of the UPEDA

UPEDA will use these funds to continue programs designed to retain and attract sustainable business. These programs are focused to provide a continuing and thriving economic base throughout the UP.

UPEDA was recognized through this grant award as the organization which represents the WHOLE Upper Peninsula. By awarding this UPCFA grant to UPEDA, UPCFA continued efforts at solving community problems and enhancing life in the Upper Peninsula.

UPCFA's Role:

The Alliance provides financial support to qualified tax-exempt organizations for projects aimed at solving community problems or enhancing life in the Upper Peninsula. The Community Foundation plays a leadership role through service as a catalyst for change, a convener to address problems, a partner with other community organizations, and as a resource for solutions to emerging community needs.

UPEDA Mission

The mission of the Upper Peninsula Economic Development Alliance (UPEDA) is to enhance, link, and promote the unique aspects of Michigan's Upper Peninsula as a viable location in which to invest and conduct business. It will accomplish this through regular networking, education, regional image campaigns, regional marketing campaigns, and creation of a regional information base. It is the goal of the UPEDA to provide a single point of entry for business attraction as well as the conduit of information and opportunities throughout the Upper Peninsula.

The UPEDA has a broad base of members, including economic development professionals, utilities, railway, regional planning and employment agencies, engineering and architectural firms. All the services of the UPEDA are free and confidential.

If you have any questions about the UPEDA, visit our website www.superiormichigan.com or contact Karen Olsen at 906-492-3998.

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